



Blind



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Chapter 1 by Bee

Jaime pushed her bangs out of her face; even though it wouldn't help her see. Nothing but surgery could.

Ever since she could remember, she had been blind. Her father pushed her around and pretended she wasn't there.

But her mother, oh her wonderful mother, would describe things for her. *Look, Jaime Vivian Campbell would whisper. The trees' leaves are golden and red today. Beautiful, aren't they?*

And Jaime would respond *Yes, mami, beautiful*

Humming, Jaime navigated around her living room decor and into the kitchen. Having memorized the layout of her apartment, it wasn't hard to live everyday life.

When she went out, with her cane, people were extraordinarily nice. Which bugged Jaime a lot. *I'M FINE!* she wanted to scream. But instead, she simply mumbled *thanks* and went on with her day.

That was where it became handy to know Braille, something Vivian made sure she knew. /o necesitara Jaime's mami would not be able to read it.

She did. And she was glad.

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Her father, papi, was a very different thing. *Very* different. Juan Campbell would drink and drink and drink, then jostle his daughter, his hija, around. He hurt her.

But Jaime Campbell was strong. She grew her will until it wasn't a tiny baby tree anymore. It was a great oak, spreading its branches and growing.

Chapter 2 by Bee



When the oak became wise enough, it started out on its own, have its own vida- its own life.

Jaime sighed and ran a hand along the cabinets, opening the one that read *cups*. Pulling one out, she turned on the faucet and made herself ice water. She took a sip.

Then she brushed her bangs back of her eyes and sat down in the old rocking chair.

Her mami would rock her when she was young. *Come here, mi amor* Vivian would murmur. And Jaime would wander over, sit on her lap, tucking her head under her mami's chin. After Jaime was situated, Vivian would sing.

Oh, her mother had a beautiful voice. She could sing anything from Hallelujah to Feliz Navidad perfectly.

It took years -and still will- to get Jaime to believe she had the same voice. But her voice wasn't something she took for granted. It was one of the only things that people listened to.

Which was why she was going to enter the singing contest.

Chapter 3 by Luna



Jamie had the ability to hear better, to listen better, ever since she lost her vision. She heard that when you lose one sense, the others become stronger.

She has been told that she has good taste in music. She preferred fast paced songs, something that makes you want to dance. Something that makes your heart race.

Sometimes when Jamie was alone, she would turn on her radio and sing along to the songs, sometimes dancing. Sometimes she would just sit and listen.

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The contest was in a two days. She had heard from one of her friends that there was going to be a singing contest in the next town over. The grand prize would be \$5,000. Jamie needed the money for school. She wanted to go to college. She wanted to go to Columbia, which is many, many miles from home.

Chapter 4 by Randompeepur



She would practice in her room, filling the house with her beautiful voice. The only threat to her practice time was the figure of her father who would barge inside the room and forced her to stop singing; his rough grip would hurt her wrist as he pushed her onto the bed, shouting curses in the process. The words hit her painfully like a slap of reality bringing all her dreams down.

"Shut your mouth, no one wants to listen to blind people singing horribly, you piece of shit!"

"You think you can sing, don't you? HUH?"

"Don't you know that people are nice to you because you're blind?"

At these moments, tears would trickle down her face as she realized that reality was cruel. After her dad left, she would quietly lay on her bed and cry, feeling the wet tears streaming. And after crying herself to sleep, the contest day finally arrived.

Jaime woke up, feeling rather tired and stiff. She walked across her room to her closet, feeling the fabrics of her clothes as she looked for a lacy dress for her to wear. When she found it, she carefully changed her clothes and combed her long hair when she was done.

Finally, she was ready.

Chapter 5 by -



She looked stunning. Wearing a silky red gown the draped across her black heeled feet. Jamie cleared her throat and waited back stage for her name to be called.

"Next in tonight's talent show is Jamie Campbell!"

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She walked in a straight line onto the stage, and the host helped her to the center, in front of the microphone. She took a deep breath and began.

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She clasped her hands together, took a deep breath, and began.

Chapter 6 by Vannilla21



She sang, slow, and beautifully, The judges Smiled as they watched, they had no clue she was blind. Finally, she finished her song.

"My, oh my, Jamie, your voice is very beautiful, I have to say." One judge says.

"Th..Thanks, Um-" Jamie was stopped.

"Could you walk here for a second, I have to give you something." The judge says, smiling.

"I would, But I need help." Jamie says.

"Why would you, it ain't that hard." The judge says, as he laughs.

"I am blind...." She says, softly.

"Oh, You can walk off stage then." The judge says, sounding disappointed.

One after another, contestant's did their performances as Jamie waited for the winner.

"Ah, finally over with voting. We have our three last contestant's."

Jamie crossed her fingers.

"In third place, We have, Eliza Conroy!" The man says, as the girl goes up for the trophy.

"In second place, we have, Bailey Edwards!" The man continued.

"And In first, Um, one second folks." The man walks offstage.

Everyone was so quiet, we could here the backstage people talking, Jamie had to eavesdrop.

"We can't have a blind girl win!" That man whispers, even though we hear it.

"C'mon Robert, just cause she is blind, don't mean she won't get around the recording room." A woman says.

"I won't do it! I own this competition, I make the rules!" he raises his voice, much louder.

Jamie was crying, hugging her mami, "Mi amor, It will be okay." Her mother kissed her forehead.

"No it won't! Nothing is wrong with me! They hate me cause I'm blind!" jamie says, crying much more badly.

"I am back folks-"

" Just because I am blind doesn't mean a thing! I will be the best I can If I win, I am not stupid! I know things, I am smart! If you think blind people can't learn there ways around, you are crazy! I remember my house with my heart!" Jamie says, with the tears streaming down her cheeks.

"Sit down! Blind people can't win! Blind people take awhile to get around!" The judge screams

at Jamie.

Jamie then walks up the stage, looking up by herself, and walking up by herself. "See what I did, I walked up the stage, and I won! I am not stupid! I know things, I am smart! If you think blind people can't learn there ways around, yes I know, I am smart! If you think blind people can't learn there ways around, you are crazy! I remember my house with my heart!" Jamie says, with the tears streaming down her cheeks. Just then, a woman comes out.

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"Congrats Jamie, you've won." The woman says, and hands me a Large trophy, a card, and a ticket for getting in the..WHOA she is getting a record deal out of nowhere!

Chapter 7 by -



Jamie was ecstatic. Over night her dreams all became a reality.

She now had enough money to attend school.

She now could sing to people, and show the world her happiness.

She now would be an inspiration to hundreds of blind people.

She will be a rising star - she is a shining star!

Chapter 8 by SaintSayaka



Of course, she wasn't real. None of this story was real.

Did you find yourself rooting for her? Did you find yourself swept away by her story? Her biography was quite convincing, no?

As if things could work out this easily. As if it's this easy to become a star.

My name is Alexis Rodreguiz. I have been living in a barely legal apartment flat for a few years now, spending what little money I get on food and guitar strings. No one will listen to my songs. No one will listen to my voice.

So I wrote this story. I posted it to every forum, every piece of social media, every place, everywhere I could think of. I intentionally placed it in another country to explain why most people hadn't heard of this Jaime. Nobody bothered to fact check, and those who did were largely ignored. The story became viral. Everybody was cheering on Jaime.

Jaime was real because the public believed she was.

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Millions of views, every day. The lesson I learned? Everyone wants to be on your side when you make it. Everyone wants to hear the success story.

Nobody wants the "before" pictures. Nobody wants to be a catalyst.

This is my admission that Jaime is not a real person. Rather, it is I who have breathed life into her. Maybe by extension, you will find her real in this regard. I am posting this message on all of Jaime's accounts.

Will my followers stick around? Will I end up making it big through my lie? Who knows. Who cares.

Au revoir.

the end

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